



NEWSLETTER



Find us on:
facebook.

Issue 16: Thursday 15th January 2026



Arts Days 2026

Next week will be a week of creativity!

During the week, the whole school will be working on the theme 'A Journey Through Europe'. This will link with Geography, as children will be learning about a range of European countries, including their traditions, folklore and crafts. Through this, they will experience a wide range of art materials and techniques. The teachers have some lovely activities planned — watch this space!



Old newspapers

We are always in need of old newspapers which we use for covering tables during art lessons and especially next week! If you have any at home (or know anyone else who does), we would love to take them off your hands. Please drop them off at the main office — thank you so much!

Open Session ~ Monday 2nd February 3.30-5.00pm

We do hope you can come along to the upcoming Open Session and that you will enjoy seeing your child's classroom, their books and teacher. You will also be able to see the 'Journey through Europe' exhibition too. A reminder that these are informal 'drop ins', not a consultation, and you do not need a set appointment.

Classes 3, 5, and 6: Use the Class 5/6 doors

Classes 1, 2 and 4: Use the main entrance

Please be aware that buggies and prams cannot be brought into the building.

YEAR 6 PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Thursday 12th February 2025 9.00am – 6.00pm

Bookings will open soon for Year 6 parent and child meetings with Miss Walker. These are for both parents and children to attend together, to review progress towards their end of Y6 targets. The meetings are taking place across the whole day and can be either face to face in school or online video meetings. We will let you know in advance when bookings will open.

Please be aware that Miss Walker will only be offering meetings on this day and alternative dates are not available. Many thanks.

Class 4 Assembly Friday 6th February 9.15am

Class 4 parents are warmly invited to come and watch the Class 4 assembly on Friday 6th February. The assembly will start at 9.15am in the hall. If you have babies or pre-schoolers they are very welcome to attend, all we ask is that you take them out if they are unsettled or making noise. **Please also note that we do not permit photographs or videos at class assemblies.** We hope you can come!

CLASS 4 CAKE DAY FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY 2026



Dear Class 4 parents,

The PTA are holding a cake sale on 30th January to raise funds for school. This time it is the turn of Class 4 to each supply small cakes or biscuits to sell on the day. Please make sure that any tins, plates or containers are clearly named.

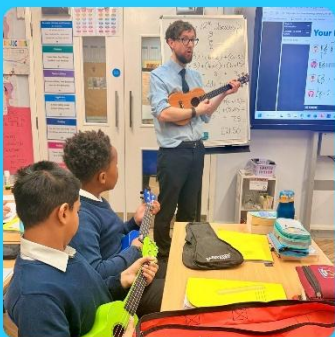
We would be very grateful if you could **donate 15 cakes for cake day**, to ensure that we have enough to go around & the children are not left disappointed. These cakes /biscuits can be either homemade or bought. You may want to plan some kitchen time to make or decorate the cakes with your child! **PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL CAKES MUST BE NUT-FREE.**

The cakes will be sold during the morning break to the whole of the school, any remaining cakes will be sold outside school at home time. We hope that you will be able to support us with this event, and we thank you in anticipation.

Thank you from The PTA

Values Education: Truthfulness

Our value for this half term is Truthfulness. We will be thinking about how important it is to be truthful, even when situations feel tricky. We will explore how being dishonest can hurt others and damage trust, and how people may struggle to believe us if we are not honest. By telling the truth, we show that we can be trusted and that we value fairness and respect.



Ukulele!

Class 6 enjoyed their very first ukulele lesson with Mr Andrews this week! The children were excited to learn how to hold the instrument correctly and practise their first chords, filling the classroom with music and enthusiasm. It was a fantastic start to their ukulele journey, and we're looking forward to hearing how their skills develop over the coming weeks.



Wednesday 21st
January, 7.30pm
Pirton School

PAPAYA

PAPAYA

Let's talk about our kids and their tech

PARENT TALK WITH BEN:

PIRTON SCHOOL

DATE & TIME

WEDNESDAY 21ST JANUARY 2026 – 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM



Dr Ben Hibberd

Ben is an HCPC registered Educational Psychologist with over 15 years experience of working with children, young people and adolescents in both clinical and educational settings. Ben could be considered a 'millennial' (born 1982) and was one of the first generations to grow up as technology was becoming an integral part of all child and adolescent development.

Now with 3 young boys of his own, and having witnessed the rise of tech companies, he is passionate about empowering children to enjoy childhood and supporting teens to learn and grow in a balanced way, making thoughtful choices about their engagement with social media and online platforms.

PAPAYA

Helping families to thrive in a digital age

Parenting in the **digital age** has never been more complex, with issues surrounding screen time, social media use, and gaming.

Many parents are concerned about their children's mental health, especially the impact of screens on it.

In this interactive talk, Dr Ben Hibberd unpacks some of the **complex issues** surrounding smartphone use and, in a **non-judgemental** manner, aims to help you find solutions that work for your family.

Topics

- The link between mental health and wellbeing and spending too much time online
- Strategies for delaying the smartphone
- Strategies for families to achieve a healthy balance with technology
- Question and discussion time

"The talk is so relevant, full of insight and eye-opening. You will walk away inspired to connect, reflect, and find out more. I highly recommend it."

— Claire Curtis, parent and SFC volunteer.



PUPIL JOURNALIST

Felicity Year 6

CLASS 6'S POEM WRITING

The work that earned a place on the golden chair in class 6 was a poem, but not any poem. In class 6 they've been reading a poem called The Deadly Menace, it is a dark, sinister poem about a big, frightening mountain.

After lots of hard work, class 6 have finished writing up their own poems, where every line had to have a certain amount of syllables and the 2nd and 4th lines had to rhyme. They've worked on their poems for weeks now and have widened their vocabulary by looking for exciting words in the thesaurus. We are very proud of our masterpieces!

CLASS 5'S MATHS

In class 5, their maths has been about working on hundred squares and finding out the percentage. They did this by seeing how many squares were shaded in, and after they found the percentage they could work out what it was as a fraction.

AN EXCITING FIRST FOR AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS...

As you all are aware of, clubs have started this week and a new club we have never had before is being run by Mr Andrews. St Ippolyts has now officially started a ukulele club!

FACT OF THE WEEK

Did you know that humans and giraffes have the same amount of neck bones (seven) despite giraffes having much longer necks than humans.



THE DANGERS OF FROZEN WATER

TOP TIPS TO STAY SAFE

NEVER GO ON THE ICE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES

This includes attempting to rescue another person or animal who may have fallen through the ice.

ONLY USE WELL LIT AREAS

Try to take walks in the daylight but if you must walk in the evening, only use well lit areas and avoid anywhere with water.

KEEP AWAY FROM THE EDGE OF THE WATER

Never go close to the edge or lean over to touch the ice. You may overbalance or trip and fall in.

ALWAYS WALK WITH AN ADULT OR A GROUP OF FRIENDS

Look out for each other and if someone does fall through the ice there will be others around to raise the alarm and get help

Every year children are at risk when they are tempted to play on the ice formed on open waters and adults find themselves at risk as they attempt to save them. Over 50 % of ice related drowning involved an attempted rescue of another person or a dog.

Areas with frozen waters can be beautiful to look at but they are also extremely dangerous. Here are some useful tips to help you enjoy these areas safely.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FALL THROUGH THE ICE

Keep calm and shout 'help'

Spread your arms across the surface of the ice in front of you

Try to kick your legs and pull yourself out of the water and on to the ice

Lie flat, spreading your weight across the surface and pull yourself to the bank. you may find it easier to roll.

If you cannot climb out, wait for help and keep as still as possible. Keep your head above the water, press your arms by your side and keep your legs together

Once you are safe, it is important that you go to hospital immediately for a check up



WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE SOMEONE FALL THROUGH THE ICE

Shout for **'HELP'** and dial **999** or **112** if you can

DO NOT walk on to the ice to attempt a rescue

Shout to the person to **'KEEP STILL'** and offer reassurance.

If they are close enough, **LIE DOWN TO AVOID OVERBALANCING** and falling onto the ice, and try to reach them with a tree branch clothing tied together or anything else which can extend your reach.

If you cannot reach them, **SLIDE SOMETHING** which floats across the ice, such as a plastic bottle or a football, so that they can hold on to it to stay afloat whilst help is on the way.

If they are too far away, **WAIT FOR THE EMERGENCY SERVICES** and reassure the casualty from the safety of the bank.



RECONNECT AND THRIVE

Understanding and supporting Emotionally Based School Avoidance.

A warm, supportive space for children, young people, and their parents/carers to explore EBSA together.

Monthly sessions are relaxed, collaborative, and focused on emotional wellbeing, confidence-building, and gentle school-related support.

Thursday 22nd January 2026

Location - The POD at Northfields Infant School

Run by Letchworth Family Support Team
Scan QR code for details and booking

